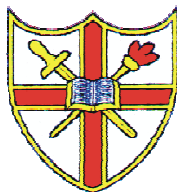


Sounding the Trumpet

April - June 2010



F.E.M.



Sounding the Trumpet

Is Published by The Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries
(Formerly The Evangelical Preachers Association, Est. 1896)

This is a homiletical magazine designed to encourage and assist all who are engaged in the preaching of the pure Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

One of the aims of FEM (as it is affectionately known by its members) is to give preachers instruction in preparation, format and delivery of the message of Saving Grace both inside and outside of church buildings. We trust that this magazine will be both a blessing and assistance to all who proclaim the Good News of sins forgiven and the hope of eternal life through saving faith in the Son of God.


Sounding the Trumpet is published four times a year. If you would like to subscribe please locate the subscription form on one of the pages in this magazine.

Articles included in this magazine are chosen for their homiletical content and not for a person's theological persuasion. As the Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries is a conservative evangelical body, no articles by those of a liberal position will knowingly be included in this journal.

As a magazine by preachers for preachers, our aim is to provide Biblically sound articles and outlines.

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We are living in a world, broken, where society is broken and people are broken. A world where there is so much despair and cruelty. Where people don't know where to turn or where to look! But I do! I know the answer and I know the way! I know where to go to find help, answers and a hope and reason why we are here. The way is through our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the way the truth and the life.

Ian Rowley
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The Highest Name of All

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:5-11).

In Scripture we find that names were very significant and were chosen with care, for they were meant to describe a person's character and attributes. The name of our Saviour is exalted above all other names; therefore we should honour Him by using it correctly. We live in an age when His name is abused and used as a swear word rather than giving Him honour through it.

The Precious Name

The name “Jesus” was not uncommon in Biblical days, and we know it is a derivative of “Joshua” meaning “salvation.” But when we refer to the name we are concerning ourselves with the One, who as God's only begotten Son came to this earth to be the Saviour by dying on the cross. Therefore Jesus is not one of many religious teachers that the world honours; instead He is so far above them that it appears that they cease to have existed at all. There has only ever been one Saviour who has died a sacrificial death to

save sinners, and that is the Lord we call Jesus.

The Bible uses over one hundred names or titles to describe the Lord Jesus Christ, these include, “Son of God”, “Son of Man”, “Lamb of God”, “The Good Shepherd”, “Immanuel”, “The High Priest” and “King of kings and Lord of lords.” Each one reveals something of His ministry on earth, but Paul tells us that the name of “Jesus” surpasses them all.

The Position of the Name

The apostle emphasises the fact that everyone who has ever lived, or will ever live, must one day bow their knee and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. It does not matter if they rejected Him on earth, for they will acknowledge that He is truly the Saviour at the Judgement Seat of God. On earth they may have blasphemed and dragged His name through the gutter, but one day they will be eternally punished for taking His name in vain. “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain” (Exodus 20:7). “That name, by the exaltation, has become the name of the King of kings. It is supreme. Hence, every knee in all the universe bows to its majesty” (The People’s New Testament Commentary). If devils must acknowledge that Jesus is Lord, then it is certain that every human, believer or atheist, must do so too. We are stating that Jesus’ name is above all because He is God Almighty. “I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear” (Isaiah 45:23).

The Power of the Name

On the Day of Pentecost the apostle Peter declared, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). That was a bold statement, and

it remains so today. If we believe these words, as Peter obviously did, then we are saying that all other religions are meaningless and lead people to everlasting torment in Hell. Peter was not teaching anything more than Jesus taught about Himself, for He said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." It is impossible for anyone to be saved except through Jesus Christ, for no other paid the price to purchase our salvation.

His name is the highest of all because it is in it that we are taught to pray. "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14). We cannot even approach God the Father unless we come to Him through His Son. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). So it is through the power and authority of His name that we can come to God in prayer.

The Preaching of the Name

As Paul stated in Galatians, there are other gospels being taught in the world, and sadly in the church too (Galatians 1:4). The Lord Jesus prophesied that there would arise many false teachers heralding a gospel in their own name, culminating in the Antichrist. "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive" (John 5:43). But the true church of Christ must only preach the Gospel that upholds and glorifies His name. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:18-20) ... "And that repentance and remission of sins should be

preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (Luke 24:47). Only the true Gospel can save souls because it is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If this is replaced with anything or anyone else then souls cannot be saved.

Conclusion

At the name of Jesus, not Buddha, Mohammed or Krishna every knee will bow and every tongue confess that He alone is Lord. It is Bible-believing Christianity, not Islam, Judaism, Hinduism or any other religion, that has the true message of salvation. Salvation is not found in Mary or the saints; in the pope or the Dalai Lama, instead it is found only in the name of Jesus.

Gary J. Hall
www.LWBC.co.uk

Church Mice™

A Christian Cartoon by Karl Zorowski



Church Mice

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www.churchmice.net

A FEAST FIT FOR THE KING

LUKE chapter 14:1-24

Who does not like receiving an invitation to a party or a special meal? It is always nice to be invited to attend a special occasion. When it is someone's special birthday or to a wedding or anniversary. It is great to be thought highly enough of that someone has taken the trouble to invite you to celebrate with them.

In the scene in our reading, 'a certain man gave a great supper and invited many'. This was no ordinary supper but it was a GREAT supper, a very special event, a supper to surpass all other suppers. Let us look at this very familiar parable of Jesus and see if there the Lord will reveal something new to us out of this passage that we have probably read many times and heard countless messages on.

The Invited Guests

The host sent out many invitations to the good and the great of the city, all of them received the invitation and not one of them sent back a message to say that they were unable to attend. How do we know this? because :17 says 'And (the Master) sent His servant at supper time to say to those who were invited "Come, for all things are now ready". The guests had not refused the invitation when it was given to them, otherwise the Master would not have sent His servant to tell them it was time for the feast to start. This is typical of people's attitude today, common courtesies have gone out of the window, people take things for granted and do not acknowledge the need to respect the feelings of others.

Their Responses

Verse 18 says 'But they all with one accord began to make excuses' They were united in their opposition to the invitation, they thought that they were too good to be bothered with the supper. Let us look again at the excuses that the invited guests gave for not attending the supper. Note that they gave excuses for not attending and no reasons! A reason is an acceptable response but an excuse is a lie disguised as a reason.

The first said 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go and see it'. Have you ever heard of anything so ridiculous as buying a piece of land without seeing it or knowing anything about it? Nobody with any sense buys property without checking out that it is suitable for his or her needs. This person put property before the invitation to dine with the Master.

The second said 'I have bought 5 yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them'. I asked a short time ago if you had heard anything so ridiculous as buying property without seeing it, and now we hear of something just as ridiculous. Can you imagine anyone buying a car or a washing machine without first checking it out and making sure that they were suitable for their purpose? Imagine needing a seven-seater automatic car and buying a manual sports car by telephone without looking on the Internet or visiting a dealer or even reading a brochure. This man put possessions before the opportunity to dine with the Master.

The third had the best (or worst) excuse he said 'I have married a wife, therefore I cannot come'. Remember this parable was written in the days when the husband was accepted automatically as the head of the household, and whatever he said had to be accepted. Also can you imagine that he did not know he was getting married when the invitation was given to him. Note that in the first two cases the men asked 'to be excused' but in this case the man said

he could not go to the supper. This man put a relationship before an opportunity to dine with the Master. What a weak and pathetic attitude and lack of respect these guests showed to the Master. Today people show similar lack of respect to the invitation given by The Lord Jesus when He invites them to 'come and dine' Do you remember the old hymn? 'Come and Dine the Master calleth, come and dine, you can feast at Jesus' table all the time'.

People are invited to taste of the salvation of the Lord and they come up with all sorts of excuses, but they usually come under 1 of the 3 headings mentioned. They are too busy with property or possessions, or they are in a relationship that takes priority and these are more important than Jesus to them.

The Reaction of the Master

Look at the reaction of the Master to the servant's information. Verses 21, 23 and 24 says 'He was angry and said 'Go into the streets and lanes, and bring in the poor, and the maimed, and the lame and the blind. Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper. The Master had prepared the supper and He was not going to let it go to waste so He sent His servant to bring in those who were the rejects of society and gave them the feast that the important, self proclaimed good and worthy people refused. There was room for those who did not count themselves worthy of a place at the masters table, and there was therefore no room for the self righteous, those who thought that they were good enough in themselves, those who were religious, these were kept out.

Are you not glad that the Lord when He came and gave the invitation for salvation it was to 'the whosoever will'. You and I who did not think of ourselves as worthy and who did not

decline the invitation of the Master, have been received into His presence and His family. We have become members of the family of the King of Kings and received Eternal Life through accepting the invitation to 'Come and Dine'.

I am glad that the Lord sent His servant out into the streets and lanes, and into the highways and hedges, for it was there outside the Royal and Worthy places that I was found before He came and the same applied to you.

Who was the servant?

The servant was the one who listened to the Master and then carried out the wishes of His Master. The servant listened, the servant went, the servant invited, the servant compelled. The servant that the Lord sends to give the invitation is You and me, it is not the job of the preacher in the pulpit to do all the listening, going, inviting, or compelling, It is the task that the Master has given each one of us to witness for Him and bring those who we come into contact with to the Saviour.

Conclusion

Let us be encouraged that the Lord sent someone to us to compel us to accept the invitation to the Saviour's feast.

Michael Hewison

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Jonah

A commentary series by David Moody

"So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not" (:6).

Jonah was not aware that there was anything wrong and that there was any danger. He had to be awakened out of his sleep by an unbeliever. It is sad when those with no faith in the Almighty God have to stir the servants of the living God into action and prayer. The Captain said pray for us that your God will save us from perishing. In Luke 16 we hear a cry from the flames of hell, pleading that others might be warned not to come to that place. Will we continue to sleep in our apathy, comfort and ease, while others perish?

“And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots that we may know for whose cause this evil is come upon us” (:7).

These heathen mariners had no way of determining who or what was responsible for their predicament except by gambling, casting lots. Some people argue that this is a legitimate way of discovering guilt or the will of God and quote Proverbs 16:33 to support their view. But the verse does not endorse the use of the lot but merely shows that even when used in human affairs God may step in and use it to show His will. But His plans will surely be done and are sure of being accomplished what ever man does. “And the lot fell upon Jonah.” In this case God does allow this casting of lots to show the guilt of His disobedient servant. The finger of divine accusation pointed firmly at Jonah. When David sinned and was confronted by God’s man, we hear Nathan say to David, “Thou art the man” (2 Sam.12:7). Jonah was the cause of the storm on the sea, he was found out.

“Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?” (:8).

He was questioned by the sailors and they wanted answers. How often when we are asked questioned about whose we

are and who we serve we avoid answering them? Many of God's people are fearful when it comes to witnessing for their Lord and Saviour. How ever not Jonah.

“And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land” (:9).

Jonah was disclosing to them that he was a descendent of the first Hebrew, Abraham. He was the one who had come from the “Ur of the Chaldees” [Mesopotamia] and was the first to be called a Hebrew. [meaning “one from beyond”].

Jonah however was not pursuing the example of Abraham because he believed and obeyed God but Jonah believed and disobeyed God. It is tragic when we who claim to have faith in God but are not obedient to the Word of God. How can we say we love the Lord and not do what He says. His next answer was not true to what he professed.

His “fear” of Jehovah was only a matter of lip service because he was bold enough to go against the revealed will of God. Jonah's actions were sheer foolishness, they were in fact lies. It seems that the heathen sailors feared their idols more than Jonah feared the living God even though on his own admission He “made the sea and the dry land.” Do we only give lip service to the great creator and redeemer? Are we more devoted to the Lord than the followers of some religion or cult. Does the devotion of the idolater put to shame the lack of devotion and obedience of those who claim to be believers. In spite of our profession of our fear of God, yet we are so often not afraid to do the things that the Word of God clearly condemns.

“Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them” (:10).

This question came from men who had no knowledge of God or His word, to one who had confessed to be His

servant. This was what challenged Jonah and made him realise his sin and how rebellious he had been. How could he have been so conceited and defiant to go directly against the disclosed will of God? Ought we not to examine our lives to see where we are, and to make us earnestly pursue the will of God for our lives?

It should challenge us to admit our failing and self-seeking will to God and to seek His pardon and cleansing, if we are out of His will or going contrary to that will.

David Moody
www.gods-honest-truth.com

We produce a PDF version of *Sounding the Trumpet and Update*. If you could prefer to receive this instead of printed copies, please contact editor@femonline.co.uk.

THE WAY CHURCH BURNLEY

(Affiliated to the Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries)

We meet four times a week, for Sunday Services and during the week for Bible Study and prayer meeting; our venue is a community centre in Burnley. This has advantages over a building of our own, as the rents are reasonable, which allows us to support Missions, Missionaries and Charities financially. Our fellowship numbers about 25 when everyone comes.

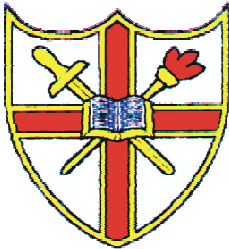
Another advantage of the community centre is that it is situated in a built up area of the town, we outreach every Friday with leaflets produced for us by Ed. Jaminson in Northern Ireland.

We had three baptisms last year and we use a private swimming pool for these occasions. We have two Elders, Harry Haynes and myself, no deacons or deaconesses, we have visiting speakers and speakers from within the body.

We are evangelical and lean towards the conservative side, sticking strictly to the word of scripture.

Eddie Turner

F.E.M.



Annual General Meeting 2010

Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries

By kind invitation our AGM will be held in

Hunslet Nazarene Church
Lupton Street,
Hunslet
LS10 2QR

8th May 2010

AGM: 1:30 - 2.30 pm

Refreshments provided

Report and Celebration Meeting: 4:00 pm

All members of the Fellowship of Evangelistic Ministries are invited to the AGM. Why not bring a friend so that they can be introduced to the work and ministry of FEM!



Update

April - June 2010

Excerpt from the Executive Council Meeting

Saturday 27th February
FEM Registered Office

In 1896 a small group of born again preacher's meet together to discuss the effective ways to bring the wonderful Gospel to a needy nation. Today we as an executive council and membership continue with the same purpose and quiet responsible commitment, secure in the knowledge we are fulfilling our part in Gospel history for this present needy generation.

Each member of the FEM executive council is an active preacher. Together we believe in the supremacy of Scripture and the primacy of preaching. We continue to share the Gospel with happiness and friendship in these exciting days of our multicultural society.

We have worked hard together producing the Members' 2010 Directory. It has been found necessary to create a file named 'Additions and Amendments' which will help with the 2011 Members' Directory to be accurate in detail.

The British Church Newspaper carries our advert for FEM and our Evangelistic Academy every fortnight. Also BCN published a complete article from 'Sounding the Trumpet.

Members using personal Christian websites help FEM to be known all over the world. Our major website www.femonline.co.uk set up by Gary carries all the details and makes them easily accessible to all. Audio messages on our

websites are now an exciting reality.

Working together in the ministry and talking together in friendship whilst waiting on the Lord is a sure foundation for the future of FEM.

Administrator and Accounts

Michael conducted the meeting in a very interesting and acceptable way. His experience in such matters is of great benefit. Legalities and loving kindness in business matters is a rare combination.

FEM is currently classed by HM Revenue and Customs as a 'Dormant Company' under a 'concessional exemption', a further application will be required in due course for this exemption status to be maintained. I will advise the Executive when HMRC require the application to be made.

Steady progress is being made in the establishing of the office here and will continue over the coming weeks. A visit to our previous office at Birstall is to be made to sort through FEM property there and to retrieve all useful items together with archive materials and any legal documents, etc. that is needed or may be beneficial to retain.

Terry has with assistance from Michael produced a very business like treasurer's report. The finances are healthy and we thank all members and friends for gifts and subscriptions. A Funds Received Voucher is will help Terry with the management of monies from all sources.

Standing to Serve

The following members of the Executive Council are due for re-election:

Rev. Paul Davis
Rev. Andrew Nelson
Rev. Frank Rowley

Rev. Paddy Flynn
Rev. David Moody

The FEM AGM will take place on Saturday 8th May 2010
(See Sounding the Trumpet).

Inspiration in Israel

David Moody and Paul Davis have ministered in Israel on their recent visits to the land of promise and prophecy. David and Paul were blessed and were a blessing to others.

Good News for Guernsey

Terry and Betty Martin are to visit family Peter and Ruth Dale in the Channel Islands. Terry will conduct a series of Gospel ministry services. Our magazine 'Sounding the Trumpet' will be available at the services. May it prove to be a perfect introduction to the work and witness of FEM.

Encouragement from the Editor

Gary J. Hall in his Executive report invites articles and sermon outlines, especially from the Executive Council and indeed from all members of FEM. The magazine will be printed to the capacity of articles and ministry sermons submitted. This means it will be a 100% production of FEM personnel.

Digital version: We are providing the Sounding the Trumpet and the Update in a digital format. This is PDF (portable document format) The PDF magazine is in two versions. [1] Formatted for online reading. This is version that appears on the website and sent by email to a few members. [2] A printable version is available for those who want to print off the magazine to give away to church members and friends.

Points from the Principal

In the Evangelistic Academy report Gary mentioned that all

of our coursework is on the internet. The majority of enquiries come from FEM website. The cost of the courses remain the same as in recent years;

Bible Certificate: £50.00

Diploma: £100.00

Licentiate: £200.00

Details of students work will be kept at the principal's home and online at Box.net and a written record to be kept at FEM Registered Head Office.

We have one student in the West Indies Island of Barbados who has begun work on the Licentiate Course.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Put a Phone in the Pulpit!

With a MicroSD memory card installed in the mobile phone and set to record on voice recorder saved to memory card the FEM Registered Office has advanced into audio ministry and put it on the internet.

'The Danger of Statistics' by Michael Hewison made a little bit of history as the first audio message in the Hunslet Nazarene Church.

Working together as a team with advice and direction from Gary in Liverpool, Frank, Michael, Ian, and Kim Strangeway in Leeds eventually triumphed over the tangles of technology and this message from Zechariah was put online.

Recognised Service Rewarded

Paddy Flynn is one of the longest serving members of FEM. In recognition of many years of service and ministry he was invited and accepted the appointment to preach at the

Celebration Rally of the FEM AGM. May the Lord bless and anoint Paddy.

Please note: Copies of members' details are kept on our databases, which includes Box.net, a secure Internet Server. If you do not want your details kept in this way please contact the Administrator by letter.



Urgent Prayer Request

Living Word Bible Church, Liverpool, has been renting a church building for several decades, but due to structural problems the owners are planning to close it in the near future. We would be encouraged if FEM members and friends could pray that the Lord would open another building up to us. We are expecting a miracle since we do not have the resources to purchase a building of our own. The same God who guided the tabernacle through the wilderness can do the same for us.

If you have information, articles, or prayer request that you would like to be included in a future edition of the UPDATE, Please contact:

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